



**Questions on the RFP to Improve the Economic Performance of the Pledged Tobacco Settlement Receipts against Bond Debt Service**

Q1: Can you please confirm that this Request for Proposal is only for the role of senior manager?

A1: Respondents must have served as a senior managing underwriter or lead financial advisor on two or more tobacco securitization transactions secured by TSRs payable under the Master Settlement Agreement, with at least one of those transactions having an issuance par of more than \$200 million (Section II).

Q2: Page 3 of the RFP states that “Responses that are labeled “confidential”, or contain information identified as “confidential”, will not be considered by the Authority.” Later on that page, there is language allowing for Confidential/Trade Secret Information. Will the Authority please clarify if responses labeled “confidential” will be accepted?

A2: The referenced sentence on responses labeled “confidential” as “not to be considered” is a typo, and should have been removed in the editing process. Refer to the section titled “Confidential/Trade Secret Information Contained in Proposals” for guidance on this issue.

Q3: Does the Authority have an Independent Registered Municipal Advisor that will be providing advice on the scope of services associated with the RFP that underwriters can rely on as an exemption to the definition of Municipal Advisor (“IRMA Exemption”)?

A3: The Authority does not currently have an Independent Registered Municipal Advisor that will be providing advice on the scope of services associated with the RFP.

Q4: If not today, does the Authority intend to provide an IRMA Exemption upon selection of a firm or firms for this engagement?

A4: The Authority will consider providing an IRMA Exemption upon selection of a firm or firms for this engagement, based on the specifics of the proposals and ideas submitted.

Q5: The Request for Proposals states that the Authority is interested in ideas for “maximizing the effectiveness of the TSRs in paying debt service on the Bonds.” Please specify whether it is the Authority’s goal to mitigate the increased risk of default, or to recoup TSRs sooner and with greater certainty than is currently projected.

A5: The goal of the RFP is to maximize the amounts derived from TSRs available to the Authority for the purpose of paying debt service.



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Q6: Is the Authority's Request for Proposals directed exclusively to firms interested in serving as a Municipal Advisor? Should firms that may wish to serve as Underwriter also respond to this Request for Proposals?

A6: The RFP is directed to firms that meet its minimum qualifications and have the capacity to provide the scope of services requested, whether as Municipal Advisor or in another role consistent with the firm's proposal. The Authority does not expect the RFP process to result in the issuance of new Authority bonds.

Q7: Is it permissible to speak with Bond Counsel for the Series 2007 Bonds regarding this Request for Proposals?

A7: All questions must be submitted through the protocol described in the RFP. If a question is legal in nature, the staff of the Authority will work with its counsel to provide a response, if appropriate. Otherwise, legal questions will be addressed after the selection of a firm or firms.